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WHY NOT PROTECT CHI. SCHOOL CHILDREN?

**Proposition Which Would Put the Ban on School Houses
Being Fire Traps Is Sidetracked—Will They
Wait Until Some Disaster Hits City?**

The proposed inspection of Chicago schools with a view of lessening the fire danger to children has been effectively blocked. When the matter first came up before the finance committee Pres. Jake Loeb stalled it off for a couple of weeks. Now it has been buried.

The matter was first discussed when W. C. West, representing the Independent Inspection Bureau, advised the school board to make a thorough inspection of the schools to discover if there were any possible fire traps.

This suggestion was approved by John Kowatt, chief engineer of the Chicago schools. He wrote a letter to Louis E. Larson, sec'y of the

board, urging immediate action for the protection of the school children.

When it came before the committee on finance Jake Loeb, who is in the fire insurance business and should realize what a fire would mean in a crowded school, stopped all talk on the question and had it deferred.

When it came up this week Jake Loeb left the room and Chas. S. Peterson, chairman of the finance committee, put the kibosh on the proposal. He said that it was entirely unnecessary for the school board to make an investigation of schools as the fire prevention bureau of the city of Chicago would attend to all that.

Those who saw the vital impor-